

## Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

/057 W

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P R 231200Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 502

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMCONSUL RECIFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 6059

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, BR, US

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION CONGRESSMAN ACCUSES CIA, CLAIMS TALK WITH  
U.S. DIPLOMAT

1. PRESS JULY 19 CARRIED MOSTLY BRIEF, INSIDE COVERAGE OF REMARKS ALLEGEDLY MADE BY OPPOSITION MDB DEPUTY (AND PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL) THALES RAMALHO TO REPORTERS IN SAO PAULO REGARDING CIA. COVERAGE VARIED SOMEWHAT AS TO WHETHER RAMALHO, CHARGING CIA SAID IT OPPOSED PRESIDENT GEISEL AND HIS DOMESTIC POLICY OF POLITICAL RE-OPENING OR HIS FOREIGN POLICY OR BOTH. NOTABLE EXCEPTION TO LOW-KEY TREATMENT WAS LIBERAL, FREE-WHEELING, INCREASINGLY JINGOISTIC JORNAL DE BRASILIA (JBR) WHICH FRONT-PAGED STORY UNDER LARGE-TYPE HEADLINE "THALES ACCUSES: CIA AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT". MOST DETAILED COVERAGE CAME FROM FOLHA DE SAO PAULO, WHICH CITED RAMALHO AS CLAIMING THAT HE HAD VISITED (UNSPECIFIED AMERICAN CONSULATE FOR VISAS AND THAT "AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE CONFESSED SPONTANEOUSLY THAT HE HAS BEEN RECEIVING INFORMATION FROM BRAZILIAN CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS. THALES RAMALHO CLARIFIED THAT HE WAS REFERRING TO THE REPORTS WHICH ARE SENT TO THE SNI (BRAZIL'S NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE) ..." (SIC).

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2. JBR FOLLOWED THROUGH FOLLOWING DAY (SUNDAY) WITH FRONT-PAGE

SQUIB SUGGESTING GOB (SPECIFICALLY, JUSTICE MINISTRY) MIGHT INVESTIGATE CHARGES. TUESDAY PRESS (MOST PAPERS DO NOT PUBLISH MONDAYS) CARRIED JUSTICE MINISTER FALCAO'S PUBLIC STATEMENT TO EFFECT HE HAD HEARD NOTHING OF MATTER EXCEPT WHAT HE READ IN NEWSPAPERS (JBR DUTIFULLY RAN FALCAO DENIAL ON FRONT PAGE). VARIOUS CONGRESSMEN (CONGRESS IN RECESS UNTIL BEGINNING OF AUGUST) WERE ALSO QUOTED, WITH COMMENTS RANGING FROM OPPOSITION DEPUTY'S "NO ONE WILL GET IT OUT OF MY HEAD THAT THE CIA IS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF THE KENNEDY BROTHERS" TO SHRUG-OFF BY GOVERNMENT ARENA SENATOR (AND SENATE MAJORITY VICE-LEADER) EURICO REZENDE THAT COLLECTION OF INTELLIGENCE ABROAD BY CIA "IS ROUTINE WORK". OTHER COMMENTS TOOK LINE THAT CIA INTEREST IN BRAZIL IS TO BE EXPECTED, AND THAT BRAZILIAN CONGRESSMEN UNLIKELY BE ABLE TO GET ALL THE FACTS.

3. CONSUL IN RECIFE (RAMALHO IS FROM PERNAMBUCO) HAS TOLD US THAT RAMALHO DID INDEED COME IN TWICE RECENTLY FOR VISAS AND THE TWO HAD CHATTED ON BOTH OCCASIONS, BUT THAT BOTH CONVERSATIONS WERE ANODYNE AND DID NOT TOUCH ON THE SUBJECTS ADDRESSED BY RAMALHO.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, INTERVENTION, INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, ALLEGATIONS  
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**Draft Date:** 23 JUL 1975  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PINR, BR, US, CIA  
**To:** STATE  
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